

Thou hast set open the flood-gates,¹ thou
 hast liberated the
 obstructed streams, thou hast
 opened the vast cloud,
 and hast given vent to the
 showers, having slain the
Ddnava?

2. Thou, thunderer, (hast set
 free) the obstructed
 clouds in their seasons; thou
 hast invigorated the
 strength of the cloud: fierce
 INDRA, destroying the
 mighty Am when slumbering (in
 the waters), thou
 hast established the reputation of
 thy prowess.

3. INDRA, by his prowess, has
 annihilated the
 weapon of that mighty beast,
 from whom another
 more powerful, conceiving himself
 one and unmatched,
 was generated.³

4. The wielder of the thunderbolt,
 the render of the
 rain-cloud, has destroyed with his
 bolt the mighty
 SUSHNA, the wrath-born (son) of
 the *Ddnava*, th'e
 walker in darkness, the protector
 of the showering
 cloud,* exhilarating himself with
 the food of these
 (living creatures),

5. Thou hast discovered, INDRA,
 by his acts, the
 secret vital part of him who
 thought himself invul-
 nerable, when, powerful INDRA, in
 the exhilaration of
 the *Soma*^ thou hast detected
 him preparing for
 combat in his dark abode.

¹ *Khdni*, the holes or interstices of the clouds.

* *Sdtana-Veda*, i. 315.

* From the body of *Vritra*, it is said, sprang
 the more power-
 ful *asura*, *Sushna*, that is, allegorically, the
 exhaustion of the
 clouds was followed by a drought, which *Indra*,
 or the atmo-
 sphere, had then to remedy.

* *MHio-napatam*, *meghchtsya rakshitdram* :
napdt, here mean-
 ing *p&tri*, a protector, a preserver, as in the
Br&hmana cited by
 the scholiast, *pr&no vai tanunapdt sa hi*
tanvak pdti: vital air
 is called the body-preserver, for it preserves the

limbs.